

City of Bloomington

2011 Black History Month Essay Contest

The Bloomington Black History Month Essay Contest is designed to encourage youth to learn more about the contributions African Americans have made to our country. The African American journey, though sometimes distressing, is inspiring. The focus of the contest is to celebrate just a few of the wonderful achievements of this community and in doing so, encourage youth in the Bloomington community to learn a little more—not just about African American History, but about American History.

Guidelines

Deadline: January 28, 2011, at 5 p.m.

Essays should be a 500 word composition that outlines the subject's contributions to society and a description of the significant aspects of their life story. Students should choose someone from the list on the right to be the focus of their essay. Essays will be judged not only on content but also on grammatical accuracy. In other words, attention to details such as punctuation and spelling will be important. Winners will be selected in the elementary (4th-6th grades), middle (7th & 8th grades) and high school (9th-12th grades) levels. All youth living in or attending school in Bloomington are eligible to participate. Submit essays no later than 5 p.m. on January 28, 2011 to:

BHMEssay@bloomington.in.gov

or by mail: Black History Month Essay Contest, City of Bloomington,
PO Box 100, 401 N Morton Street, Bloomington, IN 47402

For Bloomington Youth in Grades 4-12

Essay Subjects

- Salem Poor (1748-1802)
- Crispus Attucks (c. 1723-1770)
- 54th Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers
- Cathay Williams (1844-1892)
- 92nd Buffalo Division, National Army
- Montford Point Marines
- Tuskegee Airmen
- 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion (Triple Nickel)
- General Colin Powell (1937-)
- Major General Marcelite J. Harris (1943 -)
- U.S. Navy Master Diver Carl Brashear (1931-2006)

2011 Black History Month Essay Contest sponsors:

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc - Iota Lambda Chapter
Blacks in Government (BIG) - Crane Chapter
City of Bloomington
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. - Bloomington Alumnae Chapter
Prince Hall Free and Accepted Masons - Stone City Lodge #54
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc—Upsilon Kappa Zeta chapter

